IN THE CLAIMS

In this Response, Claims 5, 8, 9, 11, 15, 19, 21, 23, 24, 26, 30, 31, 35, 36, 38 and 48 have been amended.

Claim 1 (canceled).

- 2. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the medical device is a stent.
- 3. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the drug is a light-sensitive drug or a UV-radiation sensitive drug.
- 4. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 3, wherein the light-sensitive drug comprises actinomycin D, paclitaxel, or vincristine.
 - 5. (currently amended) A coating for a medical device, comprising:
 - (a) a first layer containing including a drug and a polymer;
 - (b) a second layer containing including a polymer disposed over the first layer; and
- (c) a light- and/or UV-protective compound included in the second layer, wherein the mass ratio between the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer in the second layer is between about 3:1 and about 1:3.

Claim 6 (canceled).

- 7. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound is additionally included in the first layer.
- 8. (currently amended) A coating for a medical device, the coating having increased resistance to light and/or UV-radiation, the coating comprising:
 - (a) a drug layer containing including a drug and a polymer;

- (b) a topcoat layer disposed over the drug layer, wherein the topcoat layer is free from any drugs; and
- (c) a film-forming layer disposed over the topcoat layer, wherein a light- and/or UV-protective compound is included in the film-forming layer.
- 9. (currently amended) A coating for a medical device, the coating having increased resistance to light and/or UV-radiation, the coating comprising:
 - (a) a drug layer eontainingincluding a drug and a polymer; and
- (b) a light- and/or UV-protective compound included in the drug layer, wherein the mass ratio between the drug, the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer is between about 1:1:2 and about 1:3:20.
- 10. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 9, additionally comprising:
 a polymeric primer layer deposited between a surface of the medical device and the drug layer.
- 11. (currently amended) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black, titanium-nitride-oxide or gold.

Claims 12 and 13 (canceled).

- 14. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 9, wherein the medical device is a stent.
- 15. (currently amended) A method for fabricating a medical article, comprising forming a coating onto a medical device, wherein the coating comprises a first layer eontaining a drug and a polymer, a second layer containing including a polymer disposed over the first layer, and a light- and/or UV-protective compound included in the second layer, wherein the mass ratio between the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer in the second layer is between about 3:1 and about 1:3.

- 16. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein the drug is a light-sensitive drug or a UV-radiation sensitive drug.
- 17. (previously presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein the light-sensitive drug comprises actinomycin D, paclitaxel, or vincristine.

Claim 18 (canceled).

19. (currently amended) A method for fabricating a medical article, comprising forming a coating on a medical device, wherein the coating comprises a drug layer eontaining a drug and a polymer, a topcoat layer disposed over the drug layer, the topcoat layer being free from any drugs, and a film-forming layer disposed over the topcoat layer, wherein a light- and/or UV-protective compound is included in the film-forming layer.

Claim 20 (canceled).

21. (currently amended) The method of Claim 15, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound is additionally included in the <u>drugfirst</u> layer.

Claim 22 (canceled).

- 23. (currently amended) The method of Claim 15, wherein the coating additionally comprising a polymeric primer layer deposited between a surface of the medical device and the drugfirst layer.
- 24. (currently amended) The method of Claim 15, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black, titanium-nitride-oxide or gold.
- 25. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the second layer is free from any drugs.
- 26. (currently amended) A coating for a medical device, comprising one or more layers of coating material, wherein at least <u>one</u> of the layers of the coating material includes a polymer, a drug and a compound capable of absorbing radiation having a wavelength in the UV

and/or visible light spectrum, and wherein the mass ratio between the drug, the compound and the polymer is between about 1:1:2 and about 1:3:20.

- 27. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein the second layer is free from any drugs.
- 28. (previously presented) A method for fabricating a medical article, comprising applying a coating formulation to the medical article, the coating formulation including:
 - (a) a polymer
 - (b) a drug; and
- (c) a light- and/or UV-protective compound, wherein the mass ratio between the drug, the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer is between about 1:1:2 and about 1:3:20.
- 29. (previously presented) The method of Claim 28, wherein the medical article is a stent.
- 30. (currently amended) The method of Claim 28, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black, titanium-nitride-oxide or gold.
- 31. (currently amended) The coating of Claim 9, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black, titanium-nitride-oxide or gold.
- 32. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein the medical device is a stent.
 - 33. (previously presented) A coating for a medical article, comprising:
 - (a) a polymer
 - (b) a drug; and
- (c) a light- and/or UV-protective compound, wherein the mass ratio between the drug, the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer is between about 1:1:2 and about 1:3:20.
- 34. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 33, wherein the medical device is a stent.

35. (currently amended) The coating of Claim 33, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black, titanium-nitride-oxide or gold.

Claim 35A (canceled).

- 36. (currently amended) The coating of Claim 8, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black, titanium-nitride-oxide or gold.
- 37. (previously presented) The method of Claim 19, wherein the medical device is a stent.
- 38. (currently amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black, titanium-nitride-oxide or gold.
- 39. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the thickness of the second layer is between about 100 nanometers and about 4 micrometers.
- 40. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 8, wherein the medical device is a stent.
- 41. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 8, wherein the thickness of the film-forming layer is between about 100 nanometers and about 4 micrometers.
- 42. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein the thickness of the second layer is between about 100 nanometers and about 4 micrometers.
- 43. (previously presented) The method of Claim 19, wherein the thickness of the film-forming layer is between about 100 nanometers and about 4 micrometers.
- 44. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the second layer is configured to reduce a rate of release of the drug from the first layer after the medical device is inserted into a patient.
- 45. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein the second layer is configured to reduce a rate of release of the drug from the first layer after the medical device is inserted into a patient.

- 46. (previously presented) A method of coating a medical device, comprising applying a first coating composition including a drug and a polymer to the medical device, and applying a second coating composition over the first coating composition, the second coating composition including a polymer and a light- and/or UV-protective compound, wherein the mass ratio between the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer in the second composition is between about 3:1 and about 1:3.
- 47. (previously presented) The method of Claim 46, wherein the medical device is a stent.
- 48. (currently amended) The method of Claim 46, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black, titanium-nitride-oxide or gold.